The transformation to a low-carbon society has become the prerequisite for the future of modern industrial society. The governments of many countries have already started with the decarbonisation of their economies. Differences in their economic, technical and policy approaches facilitate mutual learning. The symposium will present a variety of important international approaches to decarbonisation at the highest level of expertise and will work out respective advantages and disadvantages.

Options for sustainable energy systems and related infrastructure will be a core issue of the symposium. In addition, opportunities for innovative partnerships in the transition to low-carbon development will be illuminated. The event aims to draw conclusions that can both serve the improvement of the various national and regional strategies as well as the intensification of international innovation partnerships.
Date

9 May 2012, 14.00 – 19.00

Reception

19.00 – 21.00

Venue

Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

Programme

13.30 – 14.15  
Registration

14.15 – 14.30  
Welcome and Introduction
  
**Dirk Messner**, Vice Chair, WBGU

14.30 – 14.40  
Setting the Stage

**Hans Joachim Schellnhuber**, Chair, WBGU

14.40 – 15.00  
Keynote

**Angela Merkel**, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

15.00  
Session 1: Towards Low-Carbon Transformation: Views from China, USA, India, Sweden and UK

- **Su Wei**, National Development and Reform Commission of the People’s Republic of China, Director General of Climate Change
- **Mario Molina**, Member of U.S. President’s Committee of Advisors in Science and Technology and Nobel Prize Laureate, Mexico and USA
- **Leena Srivastava**, Executive Director Operations, TERI, India
- **Lena Ek**, Minister for the Environment, Sweden
- **Lord Nicholas Stern**, London School of Economics, UK

Moderator: **Hans Joachim Schellnhuber**, Chair, WBGU

16.00  
Session 2: Sustainable Prosperity Through Innovation

**Impulse Statement**

**Georg Schütte**, State Secretary, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research

- **Frank Mattern**, Head of McKinsey & Company’s German Office
- **Andrew Beebe**, Chief Commercial Officer, Suntech Power Holdings
- **Caio Koch-Weser**, Vice Chairman Deutsche Bank Group, UK

Moderator: **Jürgen Schmid**, WBGU

Coffee break

17.30  
Panel Discussion: Pathways and Possibilities of Partnerships for Low-Carbon Prosperity

- **Nebojsa Nakicenovic**, WBGU: Global Energy Revolution: Efficiency and Decarbonization (Introduction)
- **Manish Bapna**, Acting President, World Resources Institute, USA
- **Katherine Richardson**, University of Copenhagen, former Chair of the Climate Commission, Denmark
- **Urban Rid**, Director General, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
- **Mika Ohbayashi**, Japan Renewable Energy Foundation

Moderator: **Dirk Messner**, Vice Chair, WBGU

18.45  
Conclusions

**Hans Joachim Schellnhuber** and **Dirk Messner**

19.00  
Reception